70 Glimpses from the Sunnah

A few Teachings of Prophet Muhammad (Pbuh) for All of Mankind

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INDEPENDENCE DAY GIFT

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God Almighty, the one and only unseen Lord and creator of all that exists, sent his prophets throughout human history for the guidance of Mankind, and to help mankind know the purpose of human life and attain their salvation. The last of them was Prophet Muhammad (Pbuh- Peace be upon Him) who lived 1400 years ago and the Quran was revealed to Him (Pbuh) by God. From the vast collection of over 10000 Sahih (authenticated) teachings (known as Hadeeths), and practices based on hadeeths called 'the Sunnah', these are just a few Values & Teachings that we would like to share with you as a loving gift on the day of OUR INDEPENDENCE. The Prophet (Pbuh) said the following on various occasions:

1. (On the importance of Mother) *The prophet was once asked; 'O Messenger of God, who among the people is most deserving of my good conduct & companionship?'He said, 'Your mother.' The man asked, 'Then who?' He said, 'Your mother.' He asked, then who?' He said, 'Your mother.' He asked,'Then who?' He said, 'Your father.*

2. (On raising daughters) *"Whoever has three daughters, cares and provides for them, and shows them mercy, will enter Paradise .", when asked about two daughters, He replied yes to such parents as well.*

3. (On love, kindness, and conduct towards ones wife) *"The most perfect in faith amongst believers is he who is best in manner and kindest to his wife.""The best thing in this world is a virtuous woman (wife)." "A believing man must not hate a believing woman (his wife), for it may be that he dislikes one of her qualities but will be pleased with some other qualities that she has."The world is but a (quick passing) enjoyment; and the best enjoyment of the world is (to have) a pious wife."*

4. (On Charity) *"Give charity while you are healthy, feeling stingy, fearing poverty and hoping for wealth. Do not delay giving it until*

the time of death (approaches) and then (they) say: give so much to so-and-so, because it already belongs to so-and-so""Save yourself from the fire of hell even if it's by giving half a date in charity". "Charity does not diminish wealth""The believer's shade on the Day of Resurrection will be his charity.""Give charity without delay, for it stands in the way of calamity"

5. (On Parents) *"He is doomed, he is doomed, he is doomed." It was said, "Who, O Messenger of God?" He said, "The person whose parents, one or both of them, reach old age during his lifetime but he does not enter Paradise (By serving them well)." A companion asked the prophet; what rights can parents demand from their children?" He (Pbuh) replied, "They are (or your relation with them will determine) your Paradise or your Hell.", A companion asked what are the absolute gravest sins in the Sight of Almighty God?. The prophet (Pbuh) replied: "They are:--To join others in worship with Almighty God, To be undutiful to one`s parents, To kill a person (i.e. to commit the crime of murder), and to give a false witness."God, the Almighty forgives any sin He pleases, except disobedience to parents; & God hastens (quick in punishment) in this life for one who disobeys his parents."The prophet was once asked: "O Messenger of God, do my parents have any right over me after they have died?" The Prophet (pbuh) answered, "YES! You must pray to God to bless them with His mercy & forgiveness, & you must fulfill the promises they have made to anyone as well as give due regards to their relatives & friends."*

6. (On Racism and caste system) *"All mankind is from Adam and Eve, an Arab has no superiority over a non-Arab nor a non-Arab has any superiority over an Arab; also a white has no superiority over a black nor a black has any superiority over white except by God conscious piety and good deeds."*

7. (On Mercy) *"Those who are merciful will be shown mercy by the most Merciful (i.e. God)". "Be merciful to those on the earth and the*

One above the heavens will have mercy upon you". Prophet said that "God says: 'I am Ar-Rahmaan (the Most Merciful) & this rahhm (Womb/Mercy) has a name that is derived from My name. Whoever upholds it, I will take care of him, & whoever severs it (ties with their mothers), I will cut him off.'"

8. (On the extent of God's Mercy)" *Allah divided mercy into one-hundred parts and He kept its ninety-nine parts with Him and sent down its one part on the earth, and because of that, its one single part, His creations are Merciful to each other, so that even the mare lifts up its hoofs away from its baby animal, lest it should trample on it."*

9. (On mercy to Animals and its consequences) *"A woman was once punished after death because of a cat which she had kept confined until it died, and because of this she entered the Fire. She had neither given it food or drink while confining it, nor had she let it free to eat the creatures of the earth."*

10.(On importance of Afterlife) *"The similitude of this (temporary) worldly life in comparison to the Hereafter is not but any one of you dipping his finger in the sea; let him see what he brings forth."*

11. (On Associating Partners with the Unseen supreme God) *: Whoever meets Allah , without associating partners with Him, will enter Paradise; and whoever meets Him as one who associated anything with Him, will enter Hell-Fire.*

12. (On Anger) *"The strong are not wrestlers. Verily, the strong are only those who control themselves when angry.""The judge should not judge between two people while he is angry.""When one of you becomes angry while standing, he should sit down. If the anger leaves him, well and good; otherwise he should lie down". A companion once asked" Advise me on prophet of God! "The Prophet said, "Do not become angry and furious." The man asked (the same) again and again, and the Prophet said in each case, "Do not become angry and furious."*

13. (On importance of small deeds) *"Do not regard any good deed as insignificant, (not) even meeting your brother with a cheerful face."*

14. (On identification of Righteousness & sin) *"Righteousness is to have good character and sin is what wavers (Guilt pangs) in your heart and you hate for people to know about it (i.e. your sin).*

15. (On Faith/Imaan) *The prophet (Pbuh) was asked once;What is Iman? 'It is that you believe in GOD and His angels and His Books and His Messengers and in the Last Day, and in qadar (fate), both in its good and in its evil aspects". He also said "There are some 60 or 70 branches of faith. The highest is to bear witness that 'There is no god but "The God" and Muhammad is the Messenger of God' The lowest is the removal of harm from the road. Modesty is also of faith."."By Allah, he is not a believer(no real Imaan)! By Allah, he is not a believer! By Allah, he is not a believer." It was asked, "Who is that, O Messenger of Allah?" He said, "One whose neighbor does not feel safe from his evil"A person once asked the Prophet (peace be upon him): "What is faith?" The Prophet replied: "When a good deed becomes a source of pleasure for you and an evil deed becomes a source of disgust, then you are a believer(with faith)."*

16.(On Time and good health) *"There are two blessings which many people waste: health and free time.", "Take advantage of five matters before five other matters: your youth, before you become old; and your health, before you fall sick; and your richness, before you become poor; and your free time before you become busy; and your life, before your death."*

17.(On loving Orphans) *"Would you like to soften your heart, And to achieve your desire? Then have mercy upon the orphans, stroke their heads, and feed them from your (own) food. Thereby you will soften your heart and achieve your desire"*

18. (On identifying Sin) *'a sin is that which wavers in the heart (the feeling of guilt), while you do not want anyone to know about it*

(the action that pricks) He even said: "When something pricks your conscience, give it up (for it is sin)."

19.(On maintaining cordial blood relations) *"He who desires ample provisions and his life be prolonged, should maintain good ties with his blood relations"*

20.(On labor rights). *"Give the worker his wages before his sweat dries."*

21.(On Arrogance) *"On the Day of Resurrection, the arrogant will be gathered like ants in the form of men. Humiliation will overwhelm them from all sides. They will be driven to a prison in Hell called Bawlas, with the hottest fire rising over them, & they will be given to drink of the juice of the inhabitants of Hell, which is teenat al-khabaal." "The one with an atom's weight of arrogance in his heart will not enter paradise".*

22. (On cleanliness) *"Cleanliness is half of faith," & "The key to paradise is salah (daily prayer on time), & the key to salah (Prayer) is cleanliness."*

23.(On friends & their influence) *"The parable of a good friend and a bad friend is that of a carrier of musk and a blacksmith. The carrier of musk will give you some, or you will buy some, or you will notice a good smell; but as for the blacksmith, he will burn your clothes or you will notice a bad smell."*

24. (On concealing shortcomings of others) *"God will cover up on the Day of Resurrection the defects (faults) of the one who covers up the faults of the others in this world".*

"Whoever sees a fault and conceals it is like the one who brought back to life an infant girl who had been buried alive.

25. (On Alcoholic drinks) *" Do not drink Qamar (Alcholic drinks), for it is the key to every evil".*

26. (On spreading love and Peace) *"By Him in whose hand my soul Is, you will NOT enter paradise unless you believe, & you will not truly believe unless you love each other. Should I tell you something that will help you love one another? Spread the greetings of peace among yourselves."*

27. (On being good to even bad relatives); *once a companion asked;"O Messenger of God, I have relatives with whom I try to keep in touch, but they cut me off; I treat them well, but they treat me badly; I try to be kind to them, but they are cruel to me." He said: "If you are as you say, it is as if you are putting hot ashes in their mouths. You will continue to have support from God against them so long as you continue doing that."*

28.(On Major sins) *Once the Prophet (peace be upon him) was asked about major sins & he said, "They are: associating partners with God, disobeying one's parents & causing them pain or injury, killing someone unlawfully & giving false evidence."*

29. (On Guests, neighbors and good speech) *"He who believes in God and the last day should honor his guest; he who believes in God and the last day should not annoy his neighbors; and he who believes in God and the last day should say what is good or keep silent"*

30. (On Death) *"The gift to a believer is death" "O People! Remember much the destroyer of pleasures, death." (Be prepared!!)*

31.(On significance of marriage)*"O young men, those of you who can support a wife should marry, for this keeps your eyes from gazing at other women (Causing corruption in society) & also protects you from immorality. Those who cannot marry should devote themselves to fasting, which will help them to control their (bodily) desires."*

32. (On manners & good conduct)*" The Prophet (pbuh) said, "A father can give his child nothing better than good manners.""Two people should not converse to the exclusion of a third, for indeed that will make him sad."*

33. (On brotherhood)*"None of you has faith until he loves for his brother what he loves for himself."*

34. (On causing harm) *"don't cause harm & don't retaliate with anything greater than initial harm"*

35.(On Virtue and its reward)*"If you guarantee me six things (Virtues) on your part I shall guarantee you Paradise : Speak the truth when you talk, keep a promise when you make it, when you are trusted with something fulfill your trust, avoid sexual immorality, lower your gaze (in modesty), and restrain your hands from injustice."*

36.(On Attitude of Gratitude) *"Look to those with a lesser status than you and do not look to those with a higher status, lest the favors of God seem insignificant to you."*

37. (On Paradise) *"No one of you will enter Paradise by his deeds alone." They asked, "Not even you, O Messenger of Allah?" He said, "Not even me, unless Allah covers me with His Grace and Mercy" Prophet said that God said "I have prepared for My slaves what no eye has seen, no ear has heard and no human heart can imagine". "Whoever kills a man of Ahl ad-Dhimmah [non-Muslims living under Islaamic state and protection] will not smell the fragrance of Paradise, even though its fragrance can be discerned from a distance of forty years' travelling."*

38. (On love & Kindness) *The Prophet (peace be upon him) kissed his grandson while Al-Aqra was sitting with him. Al-Aqra said, "I have ten children & have never kissed one of them." The Prophet cast a look at him & said, "Whoever is not merciful to others will not be treated mercifully" "When God wills good for the members of a household, He instills kindness in them." "If one of you loves his brother, he should tell him that he loves him"."Be kind, for whenever kindness becomes part of something, it beautifies it. Whenever it is taken from something, it leaves it tarnished." He also said: "Make*

things simple and do not complicate them. Calm people & do not drive them away.""God did not send me to be harsh, or cause harm, but He sent me to teach (goodness) & make things easy""He who is deprived of kindness is deprived of goodness"

39. (On not spending) *"It is sufficient sin for a man if he neglects those on whom he is obliged to spend (Family)."*

40 (On visiting the sick) *"When the Muslim visits his (sick) Muslim brother, he is harvesting the fruits of Paradise until he returns.". "Whoever visits a sick person or visits a brother in Islam, a caller cries out to him: 'May you be happy, may your walking be blessed, & may you occupy a dignified position in Paradise'. "Whoever visits a sick person is plunging into mercy until he sits down, & when he sits down he is submerged in it."*

41. (On good deeds) *"I asked (the Prophet Muhammad's wife) Aisha which (good) deed was most loved by the Prophet. She said: 'A deed done continuously.'"*

42 (On supplication/Dua) *"Dua /Supplication is the weapon of the believer""If anyone would like to receive an answer from God in times of difficulty, he should make many supplications when times are easy.".*

43.(On treating servants well) *let him feed him the same food as he eats & dress him in the same clothes as he wears, do not overwhelm them with work & if you give them work to do then help them with it."*

44. (On rights of neighbors) *Among the rights of one neighbour over another are the initiation of greetings, visiting him if he is sick, offering condolences if calamity befalls him, congratulating him at times of joy, overlooking his mistakes, concealing his faults, bearing his annoyance with patience, giving him gifts, lending him money if he needs it, lowering one's gaze from looking at his womenfolk, & guiding him to that which will benefit him in his religious & worldly*

affairs. The Prophet (pbuh) said: "The best of companions with God is the one who is best to his companion, & the best of neighbours with Him is the one who is best to his neighbour.", the prophet (Pbuh) also said: "He will NOT enter Paradise from whose harm his neighbor is not safe.")"(Angel) Gabriel kept on enjoining the good treatment of neighbours to the extent that I thought that he would even include neighbours as heirs."

45. (On making peace and reconciliation) *"Shall I not tell you something that is better than the status of (voluntary) fasting, (voluntary) prayer & (voluntary) charity?" They said: "Yes." He said: "Restoring peace between two contending people, since a dispute between the two is destructive to both."*

46.(On maintaining good relations with mankind) *"Do NOT hate one another, do NOT envy one another, do NOT turn away from one another. Be, O slaves of God, brothers. It is NOT permissible for a Muslim to forsake his brother for more than three days."*

47.(On wisdom) *"A wise man is the one who calls himself to account (for his own faults and refrains from doing evil deeds) and does noble deeds to benefit him after (his) death; and the foolish person is the one who subdues himself to his (worldly) temptations and desires and seeks from God the fulfillment of his vain desires".*

48. (On having the right intentions) *" Actions will be judged (by God) by their (real) intentions (So watch them).*

49. (On Character) *" (just) By his good character, a believer will attain the degree of one who prays during the night and fasts during the day."*

50. (On Richness) *"Being rich does not mean having a great amount of property, but [it] is being content [with what one has]."*

51. (On replaying debts) *"If a person is in debt, he tells lies when he*

speaks, and breaks his promises when he promises." "the best among you are those who repay their debts handsomely."" If the one able to repay delays repaying his debt, then it is injustice"

51. (On replaying debts) *"If a person is in debt, he tells lies when he speaks, and breaks his promises when he promises." "the best among you are those who repay their debts handsomely."*

53.(On Envy) *"Beware of Envy, because Envy consumes (Destroys) the virtues just as fire consumes firewood"."Envy is not permitted except in two cases: (Envy) of a person who God has given wealth and he spends it in the right way, and (envy of) a person who God has given wisdom and he gives his decisions accordingly and teaches it to others."*

54.(On wealth and Blessing) *"Wealth consists of various kinds of treasures, and those treasures (all) have keys. Blessed is the man whom God has made a key for good & a lock for evil."*

55. (On Forgiving) *"Whoever suffers an injury and forgives (without any sort of compensation), God will raise his status to a higher degree and remove one of his sins."*

56. (On the Best of humans) *"Shall I tell you who are the best among you?...The best of you are those who when seen are a means of God being brought to mind."*

57. (On ethics of fighting a just war) *"Do not kill women, children, the old and non combatants, and do not harm the crops and the trees"*

58. (On human killings) *"A time will come when the murderer will not know why he has committed the murder, and the victim will not know why he has been killed."*

59.(On God's way of judging humans) *"God does not judge you according to your bodies and appearances, but He looks into your hearts and observes your deeds."*

60.(On outward Honesty devoid of inward sincerity) *"a person who will face severe punishment on Judgment day as saying: "I enjoined others to do good, but did not do it myself, and I forbade them to do evil, but did it myself."*

61. (On Hellfire) *"The fire which sons of Adam burn is only one-seventieth part of the Fire of Hell. His Companions said; By Allah, even ordinary fire would have been enough (to burn people). Thereupon he said: its 69 times in excess of (the heat of) fire in this world each of them being equivalent to their heat"*

62. (On Justice) *"The just and fair will be seated on chairs of light before God. Such people are those who decide with justice and deal justly in matters relating to their families & other affairs entrusted to them" "Help your brother, whether he is an oppressor or he is oppressed." People asked, "It is right to help him if he is oppressed, but how should we help him if he is an oppressor?" The Prophet said, "By preventing him from oppressing others." The Prophet also stated that God said: "O My servants, I have forbidden oppression for Myself and have made it forbidden amongst you, so do not oppress one another." He also said" To administer justice between two people is charity.", "Be just with your children; be just with your children."*

63. (On Lying) *"Lying leads to wickedness, wickedness leads to hellfire"*

64 (On disease and cure) *"There is no disease that God has created, except that He has also created its treatment."*

65. (On adopting Moderation in religiosity) *"Religion is very easy and whoever overburdens himself in his religion will not be able to continue in that way. So you should not be extremists, but try to be near to perfection and receive the good tidings that you will be rewarded; and gain strength (to be righteous) by worshipping (God) in the mornings, and the nights."*

66. (On repentance / Seeking Forgiveness from God) *"Feeling regret is repentance and the one who repents is similar to he who has no sin at all" "Turn to Allāh, O people, offer (sincere) repentance and seek His forgiveness. I myself offer repentance to Allāh a hundred times a day." "Allāh the Almighty said: O Son of Ādam, so long as you call upon Me and ask of Me, I shall forgive you for what you have done, and I shall not mind. O son of Ādam, were your sins to reach the clouds of the sky and were you then to ask for forgiveness of Me, I would forgive you; O son of Ādam, were you to come to Me with sins nearly as great as the earth and were you then to face Me, ascribing no partner to Me, I would bring you forgiveness nearly as great as it".*

67. (On haste) *"Ability to act in a calm composed manner is (a blessing) from Allah, whereas acting in haste is following satan".*

68. (On hypocrisy) *"Among the worst of people is the one with two faces; he who comes with one face to these and another face to those." "Hypocrites will be in the lowest pit of hellfire" "There are four characteristics, whoever has all of them is a true hypocrite (among Muslims), and whoever has one of them has one of the qualities of a hypocrite until he gives it up: when he is trusted, he betrays; when he speaks, he lies; when he makes a promise, he breaks it; and when he disputes, he resorts to abuse & slander."*

69. (On Modesty/shyness) : *"Verily, there is a (special) morality of every religion. And the (special) morality of Islam is modesty.""Verily, amongst the words people have obtained from the sayings of the past prophets is that when you are immodest (unashamed) then do whatever you desire (It means this is so bad that now it doesn't matter whatever other evil you do)""Modesty is part of Imaan and Imaan is in paradise and obscenity is part of hard-heartiness, and it is in hell"*

70. (On signs of the Last day, and there are many other signs of end times apart from these few signs or predictions) *"The last*

hour will not come before time shortens, a year being like a month, a month like a week, a week like a day, a day like an hour, and an hour like the kindling of a fire."/"When honesty is lost, then wait for the Hour (Doomsday)' A beduoin then replied, "How will that be lost?" The Prophet said, - When the power or authority comes in the hands of unworthy leaders, then wait for the Hour (Doomsday.) "From among the portents of the Hour are (the following):. Religious knowledge will be taken away (by the death of learned believers). (Religious) ignorance will prevail. Drinking of Alcoholic drinks (will be excessive). – There will be prevalence of open illegal sexual intercourse. Women will increase in number and men will decrease in number so much so that fifty women will be looked after by one man., Money will overflow amongst you (Arabs)""Before the Last Hour there will be great liars, so beware of them"/"Women would dress like men"/"Men would dress like women"/"women would be dressed and yet be naked"/"Homosexuality would be commonplace (and openly practiced)"/" "A slave woman would give birth to her master"(Parents will be slaves to their own children, or surrogate mothers or rented wombs will be common) "Naked barefooted shepherds (Arabs) would compete with one another in the construction of high-rise buildings" It (dooms day) will not come until you see ten (major) signs. And (in this connection) he made a mention of the 'smoke' (natural calamity), 'Emergence of Anti Christ (One eyed Religious leader)', the 'beast', the 'rising of the sun from the west', the 'descent of Jesus Christ, son of Mary', 'Gog and Magog (will emerge)', 'sinkings of the earth in three places, one in the east, one in the west and one in Arabia' at the end of which 'fire would burn forth from Yemen, and would drive people to the place of their assembly' (i.e., the place on earth where mankind will be assembled and the dead resurrected back to life by God for their final judgment)."

SOURCE : From the authentic collection of Imam Bukhari, Muslim, Tirmidhi, Abu Dawood, Nasai, Musnad Ahmed, Baihaqi.